

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated May 30, 2007. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the Application. Claims 1, 9 and 13 are independent claims. Claims 15-20 are added by this amendment.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-15 are amended for non-statutory reasons, such as for better form including beginning the dependent claims with 'The' instead of 'A' and changing "steps" to "acts ...". Claims 1, 9 and 13 are amended to clarify that respective patterns are "recoverably recorded" and the sum of the lengths are "selected". Claims 1-15 are not amended to address issues of patentability and Applicant respectfully reserves all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority documents.

Applicants also thank the Examiner for acknowledging that claims 4-6, 8 and 11 are allowable if amended to be in independent

form including limitations of independent and intervening dependent claims.

In the Office Action, the drawings are objected to because of a lack of labels in FIG. 1. In response, labels have been added to FIG. 1. A replacement sheet including FIG. 1 is enclosed following this amendment. Applicant respectfully requests the enclosed drawing changes be approved and that the drawing objection be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, the drawings are objected to because it is alleged that in effect, that the drawings do not show features of the claims and do not show structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed system. These objections to the claims are respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that the drawings do show features of the claims and do show structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed system. Each of claims 1, 9 and 13 substantially recites (emphasis added) "at least one sub-mark portion of a predetermined first length magnetized in a first direction substantially perpendicular to a recording surface of said recording medium and by having at least one adjacent sub-space portion of a predetermined second length

magnetized in a second direction opposite to said first direction"
and "changing the sum of said predetermined first and second
lengths in dependence on said pattern of marks and spaces."

For example, the specification makes clear that (emphasis added) "FIG. 4 shows a stray field characteristic and overlap for a specific write pattern according to a first example of the write scheme according to the preferred embodiment ..." (See, page 5, lines 11-12.) "FIG. 4 shows a corresponding schematic diagram for an I5 in an I1 carrier, according to first example of the preferred embodiment for a channel bit length $b=100$ nm. As indicated in the upper portion, each channel bit is divided into four units, and the magnetization direction for each unit is indicated by '+' or '-'. The black squares [shown in FIG. 4] represent a continuously written I5. The other curves show three separated peaks for the 15 run length, with a stray field larger than the I1 carrier level indicated by the dashed line." (See, page 8, lines 28-33.) FIGs. 6A and 6B show other examples of "first and second lengths L1, L2 and their relations.

Based on the above examples and the figures as presented, Applicant respectfully submits that the drawings properly show

essential details of the claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the further drawing objections be withdrawn.

The disclosure is objected to due to informalities. The specification is amended here to remove the noted informalities. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-3, 7, 9, 10 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,385,141 to Tani ("Tani"). This rejection of the claims is respectfully traversed. It is respectfully submitted that the claims are allowable over Tani for at least the following reasons.

The Office Action particularly alleges that Tani shows "changing the sum of predetermined first and second lengths in dependence on pattern of marks and spaces (Fig. 3, the sum of first and second lengths are changed depended from marks or spaces, long mark 225, short mark 223. see also figure 4 for changing sum of marks and spaces). (See, Office Action, page 5, lines 10-14.)

While FIG. 3 does show a long and a short mark, it is merely a representation of long and short marks shown in FIG. 2, with each

mark represented by two magnetic domains (or). In fact Tani teaches "independent of the length of the continuous record information, it is possible to stably transfer the magnetizing information on the recording layer to the reproducing layer." (See, Col. 4, lines 21-24.) In other words, Tani teaches that the pattern of the marks are selected independent of the sum of the lengths ...

Tani does teach that a ratio of marks to spaces (L_2/L_1) should be in a range of 0.1 to 0.9, however as should be clear, this ratio is not a function of the sum of the marks and spaces (see, Tani, Col. 4, lines 41-55 and Col. 6, lines 23-44). As may be appreciated, under the teachings of Tani, the total length is immaterial as long as the ratio is maintained within the taught limits.

It is respectfully submitted that the method 1 is not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Tani. For example, Tani does not disclose or suggest, a method that amongst other patentable elements, comprises (illustrative emphasis provided) "writing a mark region by having at least one sub-mark portion of a predetermined first length magnetized in a first direction substantially perpendicular to a recording surface of said

recording medium and by having at least one adjacent sub-space portion of a predetermined second length magnetized in a second direction opposite to said first direction; and b) selecting the sum of said predetermined first and second lengths in dependence on said pattern of marks and spaces" as required by Claim 1, and as substantially required by each of Claims 9 and 13.

Based on the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 1, 9 and 13 are patentable over Tani and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Claims 2-8, 10-12 and 14-20 respectively depend from one of Claims 1, 9 and 13 and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims.

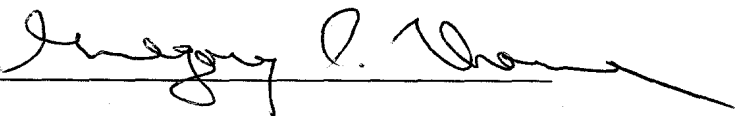
For example, Tani does not disclose or suggest "wherein a ratio of the second lengths to the first lengths is selected to be equal or greater than 1" as substantially required by each of claims 15, 17 and 19, nor "wherein a ratio of the second lengths to the first lengths is selected to be in a range of 1 to 3" as substantially required by each of claims 16, 18 and 20.

Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicant has made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Enclosure: One (1) replacement drawing sheet including FIG. 1

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